THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) As per the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, Mining Plan duly approved, is mandatory for obtaining a mining lease. The Mining Plan provides for undertaking safe, systematic and scientific mining operation. As per Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 all mining operation has to be carried out in accordance with mining plans and in case of any failure in this regard, the Rules provide that an authorized officer may order suspension of all or any of the mining operation and permit only such operations as may be necessary to restore the conditions in the mines.

(b) As per information available, safety measures such as structured multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organization (ISO), safety audit of mines by experts for assessment of threats and implementation of the recommendations, measures for avoidance of accidents due to inundation, measures for reduction of roof and side-fall accidents in below ground mines, measures for reduction of accidents in open cast mines are being taken by Coal India Limited to provide due safety to the workers.

Revival of Kolar Gold Mines

471. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of Bharat Gold Mines Limited have been demanding revival of the Kolar Gold Mines:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Global Gold Mines Industrial Cooperative Society formed by a majority of workers have submitted any proposals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Karnataka High Court in its order dated 26.9.2003 had recommended that Government should take appropriate steps to enable such of the employees, who have accepted the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS), to form an Employees Co-operative by providing them appropriate land and such machinery and

equipment as it can spare, so that they can take up projects with their specialised knowledge and experience. In this context, BGML Employees, Supervisors and Officers United Forum submitted its proposal to take over the assets of Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) and to run the mines as well as extract gold from tailing dumps.

(c) and (d) A reference from Global Gold Mines Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd. for revival of BGML has also been received. However, no detailed proposal has been received from them.

(e) The proposal of the BGML Employees, Supervisors and Officers United Forum was processed by the Government of India only after ascertaining their representative character. The Government of Karnataka as well as Ministry of Labour, Government of India had reported that this Forum has the support of majority of the ex-employees. On receipt of a reference in August, 2006 addressed to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District by Labour Officer, Government of Karnataka stating that Global Gold Mines Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd. was registered on 25.6.2004 under the Karnataka Cooperative Society Act having 2858 employees as its members, Ministry of Mines, Government of India has written to the State Government of Karnataka and Ministry of Labour, Government of India to confirm as to which of the society in BGML is having majority membership of employees of BGML so as to enable this Ministry to determine future course of action.

Sachar Committee Report

472. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sachar Committee which was appointed to look into the social, economic and educational status of Muslims has submitted its report;